(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) A Survey for a new BG line from Bankura to Raniganj via Mejia was completed in 1977 at the cost of the Government of West Bengal. For the purpose of appraisal, the project also included extending the link from Mejia to Raniganj with a bridge over river Damodar. The project was not found to be financially viable. There is, therefore, no proposal to take up its construction.

Vital demands of Eastern Railwaymen in Asansol Sub-Division

845. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employees of Eastern Railway in Asansol Sub-Division are agitating on a number of vital demands;

(b) whether a report to this effect has been recently published in a Asansol Daily newspaper;

(c) if so, what are the grievances of the employees; and

(d) what action has been taken by the Railway authorities to ameliorate the grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There has been no agitation. However, a section of railway employees presented memoranda on 29-3-89 raising certain demands.

(b) No such report has come to notice.

(c) A statement indicating the demands is attached. (See below)

(d) All such grievances received are looked into by the concerned authorities at appropriate level and action taken wherever necessary.

Statement

DEMANDS

(1) Setting up of a Permanent wage Review Body to periodically review the pay, allowances and other service conditions of the employees.

(2) Concern over series of anti labour and anti people measures like indiscriminate computerisation, privatisation and contractorisation of departmental jobs, non filling up of regular vacancies, arbitrary doing away with safety rules and devices etc.

(3) Victimisation of employees for the lapses caused due to irregular and unlawful working of the Administration.

(4) All sorts of victimisation at all places to be withdrawn forthwith.

Derailment of 126-Down Trivandrum

846. SHRI YALLA SESI BUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the derailment of 126-Down Trivandrum bound DELHI-KERALA Express on 2nd April, 1989 about 3 Kms from Salem junction;

(b) whether it is a fact that the failure of the signalling system was the cause for this derailment; and

(c) whether Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the inquiry report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The accident occurred due to failure of railway staff.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.